

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-13

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FM AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 9770

UNCLAS NEW DELHI 2409

FOR UNDERSECRETARY SISCO FROM AMBASSADOR MOYNIHAN

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EFIN, IN, US

SUBJECT: RUPEE AGREEMENT

THE RUPEE AGREEMENT WAS SIGNED AT THREE O'CLOCK YESTERDAY, WASHINGTON'S BIRTHDAY. IT IS AN AGREEMENT UNIQUE IN DIPLOMATIC HISTORY AND A CREDIT TO THE DEPARTMENT. THERE COULD NOT HAVE BEEN ANY SUCH AGREEMENT WITHOUT THE EXTRAORDINARY EFFORTS AND SKILL OF SID WEINTRAUB, SID SOBER, BRUCE LAINGEN, DENNIS KUX, DONALD BORN, JOHN HAWES, TUPPER BROWN AND ART GARDINER. I AM NOT ALWAYS IN THE HABIT OF SAYING WHAT I THINK, BUT WHEN SENATOR FULBRIGHT LOOKED AT TME ACROSS THE GREEN MAIZE OF THE CONFERENCE TABLE OF THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS AND ASKED WHETHER THIS AGREEMENT WAS IN THE NATIONAL INTEREST OF THE UNITED STATES, I REPLIED THAT IT WAS WITH AN INNER CONVICTION THAT DOES NOT COME EASY OR OFTEN THESE DAYS. THOSE MEN IN WASHINGTON, AND THEIR COLLEAGUES HERE MADE IT POSSIBLE, AND I TRUST THIS WILL BE ACKNOWLEDGED. AS BEST I RECALL FROM MY FLETCHER SCHOOL DAYS, THE WORLD WAR ONE DEBT SETTLEMENTS TOOK TEN YEARS TO NEGOTIATE AND ONLY MADE EVERYBODY MAD. WE DID THE JOB IN SIX MONTHS AND MAY WELL MADE SOME FRIENDS IN THE PROCESS. WHICH IS WHAT DIPLOMATS DO AND THEY HAVE SOME. WARM REGARDS.MOYNIHAN

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